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(b) if so, what is the nature of the offence which he committed and the section of the Prohibition Act which he offered thereby; and

(c) by whom the fine was imposed and by whom the fine was reduced?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) & (c) He was convicted under section 4 (i) (a) of the Prohibition Act by the Subdivisional First-class Magistrate of Sankari for importing three bottles of whisky into the prohibited area. On 14th October 1937 shortly after prohibition came into force in the Salem district the accused's father who was residing in Salem district applied for a permit under section 20 of the Act. A permit was duly issued on 20th November 1937. The conviction was for the despatch to him of three bottles of whisky in the interval on 10th November 1937 as a birthday present from his son from outside the district. The offence was technical and the fine was therefore reduced by Government."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I ask if the fine imposed was not technical?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" I do not quite understand the joke; the offence is technical, the hon. Member will agree."

SRI B. NARAYANASWAMI NAYUDU :—" May I know whether this is not a substantial offence, which the Government is trying its utmost to put down?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARIAR :—" The man who was fined had applied for a permit and he got it within the first fortnight of the introduction of prohibition; in the interval, his son sent him a birthday present from outside the district; that was therefore a technical offence."

Lands, if any, that can be brought under cultivation and appointment of necessary staff for working out the cost.

* 68 Q.—SRI V. V. JOGAYYA PANTULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last year there was an increase in the acreage of cultivation in this Presidency; if so, what is the extent of the increase;

(b) whether this increase, if any, resulted in an increase of revenue; if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether there are still vast areas, which could be brought under cultivation with increased irrigational facilities; if so, whether any steps are taken to estimate the extent of these areas; if not, whether Government propose to take steps to appoint an

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officer or officers, with the necessary staff, to ascertain this extent and furnish the Government an estimate of the cost of bringing these lands under cultivation?

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM:—" (a) Figures for fasli 1347 are not yet available.

" (b) Does not arise.

" (c) A scheme designed to give effect to Government's policy of assigning land to the landless poor is under consideration. In that connexion the question of what land can be brought under cultivation with increased irigation facilities will be investigated by the Government. The suggestion of the hon. Member for the appointment of an officer or officers with the necessary staff will also be considered by the Government at the proper time."

Panchayats and withdrawal of powers to supersede them from the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils.

* 69 Q.—SRI RAO BAHADUR N. R. SAMIAPPA MUDALIYAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to place on the table of this House a statement showing the names of the Panchayats superseded from 15th July 1937 up to the date of the withdrawal of the power to supersede the Panchayats from the Inspector of Local Boards and Municipal Councils, with the following particulars districtwar:—

(a) date of the order of supersession; and

(b) by whom the supersession was ordered, i.e., whether by the Government or by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards?

THE HON. SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:—" (a) & (b) A statement [a] containing the required information is placed on the table."

Alleged attack of the Police on the premises of the East Godavari District School of Economics and Politics.

* 70 Q.—SRI D. SRIRAMAMURTI: Will the Hon. the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 24th July, the premises of the East Godavari District School of Economics and Politics at Rajahmundry were attacked by the police;

(b) whether the said attack was under the orders of Government, or of the superior officer of the district; and

(c) what the necessity was for the attack on the school?

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 80 infra.